(b) if so, what preventive steps were taken during the last five years to immune this population from these types of poisonings; and

(c) what is the financial outlay approved towards such a deadly menace during the Eleventh Five Year Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) Based on the fluorine content of the drinking water in the country, fluorosis is a problem in 19 States, which are Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Orissa, Punjab, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Kerala, Assam, Delhi, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand & Chhattisgarh.

Accordingly to the WHO sponsored project carried out by Regional Occupational Health Centre (ICMR), Kolkata, 6 million people across 9 districts of West Bengal are exposed to arsenic contaminated water.

(b) Fluorosis is combated by provision of safe drinking water. Provision of safe drinking water is a State subject. However, Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments/Union Territories by providing funds under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) and Prime Minister's Gramoddya Yojana (PMGY) — Rural Drinking Water for tackling quality related problems and sustainability issues in respect of rural drinking water supply.

(c) A new Centrally Sponsored Scheme entitled "National Programme for Prevention and Control of Fluorosis' has been prepared for the Eleventh Five Year Plan with a budget provision of Rs. 68 crores. Planning Commission has approved the scheme in principle and a token provision of Rs. 1 crore has been made for the year 2007-08 in order to prevent and control fluorosis.

Opening of super speciality hospitals

1230. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:
SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the perspective planning of Government in opening super-speciality hospitals during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(b) whether any such proposal for opening a super-speciality hospital at Nagpur is pending for consideration with Government for a long time; and

(c) whether factors like central location non-availability of such medical facilities and the type of prospective patients mostly from deprived sections of the society, are given due preference while deciding location of such a hospital?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (c) Health is a State subject. It is, therefore, the responsibility of the State Government to provide tertiary health care services in the States. Government of India augments the effort of the State Governments. Under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY), it is proposed to address imbalance in the availability of affordable/reliable tertiary healthcare services and also to augment facilities for quality medical education in

the country, by establishing AIIMS-like institutions in six States, i.e. in Bihar (Patna), Chhattisgarh (Raipur), Madhya Pradesh (Bhopal), Orissa (Bhubaneshwar) Rajasthan (Jodhpur) and Uttaranchal (Rishikesh). In addition upgradation of 13 existing Government Medical College institutions in the States of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu has also been taken up under PMSSY. The institutions which has been taken up under upgradation has been decided by the respective State Governments.

There is presently no proposal for opening super-speciality hospital in Nagpur under PMSSY. However, the State Government could send the proposal for upgradation of its existing institution, in the Eleventh Five Year Plan, with the objective of increasing availability of trained Medical/Dental manpower.

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Charter of demands by representatives of SCSI, Nagpur

1231. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that representatives of Sickle Cell Society of India, Nagpur, during November 2004, had submitted a Charter of Demands on the Sickle Cell Patients, which, *inter-alia* included provision of modern diagnostic technology testing of two-months pregnant women residing in sickle cell gene zones, etc;

(b) if so, whether the demands contained in the Charter have been agreed to; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (c) According to Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), the Council have been receiving communication from Walmiki Vikas Kendra, Nagpur for setting up research and treatment centre for Sickle Cell patients in the area. ICMR under a multicentric study has already established research centres in 10 States for carrying out research on haemoglobinopathies and simple intervention method has been developed to reduce the sickle cell crisis in the affected children and one such centre is located at Medical College, Nagpur.

Death due to negligence of AIIMS doctor

1232. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that a 12 year old poor boy from Laddakh was operated upon for minor congenital heart disease by the Chief of CT Centre AIIMS and the boy died within one and half day due to negligent operation by the doctor;